



Faith United Methodist Church December 2022



Friends,

One of my favorite verses during the Advent season comes from Luke 2:14, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.” This concept has always resonated with me because this is one of the holiest times of the year, and it is the season of giving. It is the season of God-sized miracles and blessings and the season in which we wish for peace on earth and goodwill toward all. Therefore, I do not believe it was a coincidence that the angelic messengers brought the Christmas declaration first, not to the high and lofty, but to the low and humble. For everything God does is good and perfect in every way, including entrusting the message of peace and goodwill to the lowly and the humble.

You know, peace requires humility because peace is all about give and take. Peace also requires a willingness to allow others to be themselves without judgment or condemnation. Additionally, Peace asks us, at times, to hold our tongues when we would rather lash out; and try to meet people halfway. Finally, peace even invites us to be more open and willing to see things through the lens of another’s perspective and be willing to help others experience goodwill. But realizing this about Peace, and knowing there are only so many shopping days left in this crazy busy holiday season, is any of this really possible? Can we pause long enough to help and honestly wish one another well? Can we be peaceful when our stress levels are off the charts? Are we willing to be of genuine good cheer?

Well, I would like to believe that all of this is possible because being at peace with others is far easier than being upset with others. It is also easier to express peace to others when we experience peace within ourselves. In Romans, we hear, “If it is possible, live peaceably with one another.” Rom. 12:18. In other words, peace on earth requires all of us to take personal responsibility for ourselves first, then help others. Therefore, we are invited to take vital steps to find peace within ourselves during this Advent season, which I know is incredibly challenging when our Christmas lists are never-ending. But I have discovered that when I pause to do this and am at peace within my soul, I tend to be less agitated with others and life in general. However, inner peace is an ongoing learning and growing process. It requires daily work and patience, and it does not happen overnight. That said, this time of expectation and waiting is a perfect time to welcome peace, tranquility, patience, and love.

Friends, receiving God’s peace in our lives is a beautiful blessing, but being able to give peace and goodwill to others, not only in the Christmas season but throughout the year, is a true joy. So, I want to encourage you to give these gifts, first to yourself and then to offer these gifts to others around you, especially those closest to you. I also pray that the God of peace will visit you and your household and bring you His eternal peace this Christmas season. Remember, Jesus said, “Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you.” John 14:27a. Friends, I wish you all of God’s peace and goodwill this month and always. May you have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Blessings,
Pastor Kate

ADVENT READINGS

WEEK 1: NOVEMBER 27, 2022
HOPE- LUKE 21:25-36

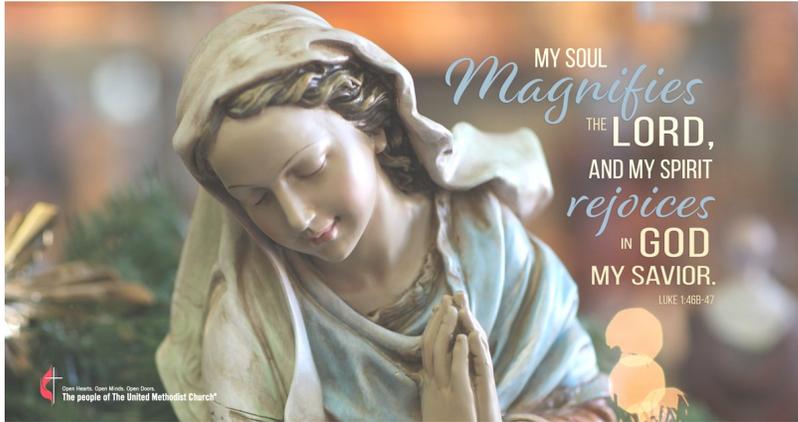
WEEK 2: DECEMBER 4, 2022
PEACE
LUKE 1:5-25

WEEK 3: DECEMBER 11, 2022
LOVE
LUKE 1:26-58

WEEK 4: DECEMBER 18, 2022
JOY
LUKE 2:1-20



Christmas Eve: December 24, 2022
Christmas Story



Bible Study on Zoom

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 pm

There are some perks to having Bible study on Zoom – at night – in December when weather can be iffy.

Card-Making Class

December 9th, at 10:00 am

You are invited to a card class in the Fellowship Hall of the church, taught by Joanne Milloy.

These classes will held the 2nd Friday of each month. We have a good time, talking and making beautiful cards.

There is no set cost for this event; A Free will offering will be collected. The money is used to defray the cost of supplies. Prep for the class takes some time, so please pre-register by calling or emailing the church office or letting Joanne know. Neighbors, friends, family, and even men are welcome!



The Book Club will not meet again until Monday, January 16th. We will be discussing the book

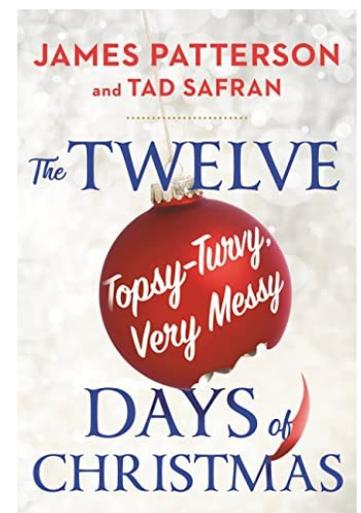
“The 12 Topsy, Turvy, Very Messy Days of Christmas
By James Patterson and Tad Safran.

America’s favorite storyteller has written a gift,

“A delightful Christmas story to be shared by the

whole family”, destined to become as treasured as A Christmas Carol. We welcome new members any time.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas



From the Trustees

(Peter Milloy, Merrilee Riopelli, Cheryl Boucher,
Jim Cassidy, Joe Ludwin, and Rich Pearson)

On behalf of your board of Trustees I would like to bring you up to date of various projects that the Trustees have either started or completed during the past few months.

1. Thank you to Fairview Lawn and Landscaping who have done a tremendous job during the past few months of keeping the lawns looking “great” at the church and parsonage.
2. Thanks to Jim Cassidy for taking care of a broken storm window.
3. Joe Ludwin has replaced the handle on the door to the Fellowship Hall. It had not worked for years!! Thanks Joe.
4. Both the church and parsonage have been toured by the Trustees. An extensive list of projects was developed during these tours. We will now develop priority lists for both the church and parsonage.
5. The brickwork on the north side of the church has been repaired. This repair should take care of the water issues that we have experienced recently.
6. The downspouts on the north side have been fixed and are now draining away from the church.
7. Shelves have been installed in the sacristy. This became necessary when we closed off the “door to no where”.

As you can see we have been busy and continue to meet our responsibilities of maintaining our property.

Feel free at anytime to talk to any member of the Trustees should you have any questions or concerns.





CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

If you would like to place a poinsettia in the church for our Christmas season, please fill out the form below, and make your check payable to Faith UMC. Please designate "poinsettia" in the memo line. Also, please note: The deadline for all requests is **Sunday, December 11th**.

You may place your check and order form in the offering plate or leave them at the church office. Each plant is \$10.00

Number of Poinsettias ordered: _____

Check total enclosed with order: \$_____

Name (s): _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Please Check One:

() I will pick up my poinsettia after the 7pm worship service on Christmas Eve.

() I do not wish to pick up my poinsettia. Please use for worship.

Questions: Please put your order in the plates prior to December 11th. See Pastor Kate for more information.

**PLEASE HOLD
THESE PEOPLE IN
PRAYER:**

- Ferne Garceau
Nancy Dahlquist
Michelle Riether &
Family
Emily Labrecque
Robert Vocatura
Verna Bergman
Shari—Garceau's
daughter
Janet Lavoie
Ann
Phoenix
Millie Hayward
Susan Wright
Tim O'Donnell
Kathy Washburn
Artur Pawlowski
Connie Harris
Arlie & Sylvia Burns
Andrew Burns
Sam & Mary Thompson
Roberta Green
Our Church
People of Ukraine
Military Moms
Everywhere
Our Country
Our World
Folks to Visit:
Nancy Burke—Home
Mary Buss—home
Euniçe Bock—home
Janice DeFlumere—
Home



Toys for Tots

Our collection for the Toys for Tots campaign with the US Marine Corps is going on through December 11th- PLEASE make sure that your donation is placed in the box by this date. Thank You for your generous contribution!

Socks, Underwear, Hats and Mittens

*We continue to collect items for the
Springfield Rescue Mission
Your generosity helps give the people that
they minister to dignity.*

Thank you!



DECEMBER



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



- 12/4 Peter Milloy
12/11 Sondra Spence
12/12 Susan Cassidy
12/15 Joe Ludwin



12/29 Janet & Jack Valley

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 6th – Advent Book Series Study – 7-8:30 pm

Dec. 9th – Card Making with Joanne – 10:00 am

Dec. 10th – December Delight fest “Fair” 9-1:00 pm

Dec. 11th – Deadline to order Poinsettias

Dec. 13th – Trustee Meeting – 4:00 pm

Advent Book Series Study – 7-8:30 pm

Dec. 15th – Communion @Nursing Homes – 10:00 am

Dec. 24th – Christmas Eve Service – 7:00 PM

Tuesdays Men of Faith 9:00 am

Wednesdays Bible Study via Zoom 7:00 pm

Thursdays Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm



***But the angel said to them "Do not be afraid; for see-I am bringing you good news of great joy for all of the people"
Luke 2:10***

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

These are the top five categories, but anything is greatly appreciated!

- Tomato Products
- Soups
- Cereal (Hot and Cold)
- Canned meat (Spam, beef stew, tuna, hash, etc.)
- Personal Care (shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, women's products, etc.)



We will be collecting these items in an ongoing basis.

Anything that you can donate will be greatly appreciated.

The “Campbell’s Soup” Barrel will be set up just inside the front door for drop off.



Liturgists

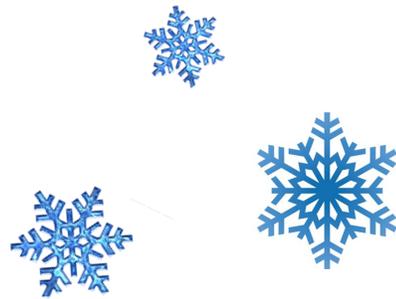
12/4 Joan Forgie
12/11 Mike Adelman
12/18 Cari Kaeding
12/24 Rich Pearson

Counters

12/5 Joan Forgie & Joy Jackson
12/12 Sallie Adelman & Susan Cassidy
12/19 Joan Forgie & Joy Jackson
12/26 Sallie Adelman & Susan Cassidy

Advent Readers

12/4—Ron Jackson & Family
12/11—Dave & Wendy Mason
12/18—Hal & Betty Lacey
12/24—Merrilee Riopelli & Family



Rev. Dr. Kate Galop
kgalop@gmail.com
(508) 737-9656
Pastor's office hours by appointment
Office (413) 533-6093

Roger LaCross—Organist
Sondra Spence: Lay Servant Minister
Mike Adelman : Lay Servant Minister
Merrilee Riopelli : Administrative Assistant

Church Office Hours
Tuesday through Friday
8:30 am—1:30 pm
www.chicopeeumc.org
Instagram : @faithchurch01020
Email : office@chicopeeumc.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/chicopeeumc

“Faith United Methodist Church’s mission is to share God’s love and encourage others through worship, and service to our community and beyond”

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How about taking advantage of Amazons great deals AND supporting the church at the SAME TIME?

Faith UMC has linked up with AmazonSmile to invite supporters to order through our special website at Amazon and AmazonSmile will make a .5% donation to the church. All you need to do is use the link below and AmazonSmile does the rest. You can still log in as usual, pay as usual, but you are now supporting the church.

Please share our AmazonSmile link with family and friends, on Facebook, Twitter, etc.....

The link below will directly link our church supporters to smile.amazon.com and support Faith UMC! Thank you!!

